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(54) **Extending application behavior through document properties**

(57) A document management system is provided which organizes, stores and retrieves documents according to properties attached to the documents. A property attachment mechanism allows an application to attach arbitrary static and active properties to a document. The active properties include executable code which perform document management functions to control the state and behavior of the document in response to a triggering event. In this manner, the state and behavior of the document is provided to a user and is accurately maintained even when the application is not running.

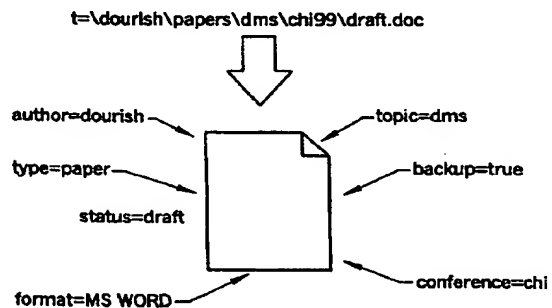


FIG.1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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X	WO 91 14222 A (INTERLEAF INC) 19 September 1991 (1991-09-19) * abstract * * page 3, line 1 - page 6, line 11 * * page 10, line 1 - page 12, line 28 * * page 13, line 1 - page 19, line 22 *	1,2	G06F17/30
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A	US 5 528 739 A (LUCAS PETER ET AL) 18 June 1996 (1996-06-18) * abstract * * column 1, line 26 - column 2, line 26 * * column 23, line 25 - line 62 * -/-	2,8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 25 October 2000	Examiner Corcoran, P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 11 7039

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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A	<p>G. STAROVIC, V. CAHILL & B. TANGNEY: "An Event-Based Object Model for Distributed Programming" 'Online! December 1995 (1995-12), TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, TCD-CS-95-28, DUBLIN, IE XP002151014</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.cs.tcd.ie/publications/tech-reports></p> <p>* abstract *</p> <p>2. Objects, Events and Constraints, p.2-6</p> <p>-----</p>	1-12	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 99 11 7039

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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82